

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application

Inventor(s): James F. Zucherman, et al.

Appl. No.: 10/685,134

Confirm. No.: 4485

Filed: October 14, 2003

Title: TOOLS FOR IMPLANTING AN ARTIFICIAL  
VERTEBRAL DISK AND METHOD

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Mary C. Hoffman

Atty. Docket No.: SFMTD-05009US1

Customer No. 23910

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This REPLY is in response to the Office Action mailed February 12, 2007, in the above-captioned application. The Examiner and Examiner Robert are thanked for extending the courtesy of an interview with the Applicant on Thursday March 8, 2007.

**Amendments** to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.